

Listing of Claims:

1 – 12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) A method of treating neuralgia pain, also known as neuropathic pain, in a mammal, including a human, ~~pain which is accompanied by an increase in muscle tone~~, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a combination of flupirtine or a therapeutically utilizable salt thereof with a sodium channel-inhibiting or -influencing substance.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the sodium channel-inhibiting or -influencing substance is tolperisone or an analog thereof.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, where the sodium channel-inhibiting or -influencing substance is selected from eperisone, silperisone, riluzole, propafenone, lidocaine, flecainide, metixen, or their pharmaceutically utilizable salts.

16. (currently amended) The ~~use as claimed in method of~~ of claim 13, wherein the sodium channel-inhibiting or -influencing substances employed are tolperisone or its analogs, such as eperisone or silperisone, or their pharmaceutically utilizable salts.

17. (withdrawn) The use of flupirtine in combination with tolperisone or its analogs, such as eperisone or silperisone, or their pharmaceutically utilizable salts, for treating pain which is accompanied by an increase in muscle tone.

18. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13, where the pain is associated with neuralgias.

19. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13, where the pain is associated with arthritis and arthrosis.

20. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13, where the pain is associated with chronic or episodic tension headache.

21. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13, where the pain is associated with lower spastic paraparesis syndrome.

22. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13, where the pain is associated with lower paraspasm, transverse myelitis, multiple sclerosis, heritable inferior spastic paraplegia (Stuempel paraplegia), disturbances of the spinal blood circulation, or cerebral paralysis involving lower spastic paresis.

23. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13, where the pain is associated with tetraparesis, in connection with cervical myelopathy, cervical brachialgia or vertebral dysplasia.

24. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13, where the pain is associated with Parkinson's disease.

25. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~12~~ 13, wherein said sodium channel-inhibiting or -influencing substance or therapeutically utilizable salt thereof is administered simultaneously with flupirtine or a therapeutically utilizable salt thereof.

26. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~12~~ 13, wherein flupirtine, or a therapeutically utilizable salt thereof, and said sodium channel-inhibiting or -influencing substance, or a therapeutically utilizable salt thereof are administered separately or consecutively with flupirtine.

Respectfully submitted,

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